

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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BRIDGEPORT, CONN., SATURDAY, OCT. 16, 1915

PRICE TWO CENTS

MANY ARE HURT WHEN TROLLEY CARS COLLIDE ON STRATFORD STREET

Six Passengers Injured As Three Loaded Jumbos Crash Underneath Railroad Viaduct—Motorman Averts Fatality.

Runaway Vehicle Rushes Down Grade on Slippery Rails and Smashes in Rear of Another Standing Under Trestle.

Three trolley cars crashed, end to end, at 5:45 o'clock last night under the railroad viaduct in Main street, Stratford. Six persons were injured. With two cars standing an inch or two apart under the viaduct, a third, one of the Connecticut Co. jumbos, rushed down the steep Main street grade on the slippery rails and smashed with terrific force into the end of one of them.

Several may have been killed and many injured had not the wildly shouting motorman at the controller of the jumbo, vainly trying to stop the heavy car rushing down the grade, warned the passengers and crew of the trolley in front of him in time for most of the occupants to scramble to safety. Some were caught.

Sydney Robert, Board's Corner, assistant superintendent, John Hancock Life Insurance Co., Bridgeport, right hip and back severely injured.

Seaker, Richard, 14 Sixth street, Ansonia, deep gash over right eye. Clark, George, Devon, right elbow lacerated and back sprained.

Smith, William W., Gillette's Corner, Milford, small finger, right hand, dislocated, bruised.

Ganser, Clarence, Homestead avenue, Stratford, right knee sprained.

Zorne, Mrs. Minnie, 336 Willard street, Bridgeport, back severely sprained.

The front vestibule of the jumbo car and the back vestibule of the one next to it were wrecked. All the cars were put out of commission until a wrecking crew arrived and cleared the tracks.

It was shortly after 5:30 o'clock last night when three cars, all bearing big crowds of commuters, were bound in the general direction of the center of the town. The cars came from Paradise Green and it stopped to take on a passenger at the viaduct. James A. Stone was motorman and John Mosby, conductor.

The second car, with Motorman John McGee and Harry Fly as conductor, was close behind. It had come from Barnum avenue.

Between the viaduct and a spot about 300 feet north on Main street, there is a steep grade. The rain that fell during the afternoon had made the rails very slippery, so much so that motormen were having much trouble with their cars.

With the second car slipping slowly into the rear of the first car, the third trolley, headed by John Ferris, motorman and Clifford Hall, conductor, the car was bound for Walnut beach.

David Rhoades, assessor of Stratford, was alighting from the second car when he saw several hundred feet away the third car rushing down the grade, with Ferris frantically waving one arm. As he drew nearer he saw that he was shouting a warning was apparent. The crews of the two stationary cars saw the danger at the same time and they shouted to their passengers. Most of them escaped from the vehicles before the crash came.

Helplessly tugging at the controller apparatus, Ferris stuck to his post as the car careened to the viaduct with a smashing and grinding noise that could be heard many blocks, the car ran into the rear of one of the standing trolleys and that in turn smashed the first one.

By some miracle Ferris escaped. He wasn't hurt. All the passengers of the second car avoided injury, but Mrs. Zorne, on the runaway car, however, many suffered, if not visible injuries, a severe shock and bruises.

Chief of the Fire Department Allen E. Judson and Constable Fred Palmer heard the crash and the screams and rushed to the aid of the passengers. Dr. Rudolph Howard was summoned on the telephone. The fire chief and his assistant did valiant work in helping the injured out of the mess and he assisted them to the office of the physician, where all were treated. Later they were taken to their homes.

The wrecking crew worked half an hour on the mix-up and then placed the cars in commission so they could limp to the barn.

Superintendent Charles H. Chapman of the company said this afternoon that an investigation is being made. As far as is known, he said, slippery rails were the causes of the accident.

FLAGMAN PREVENTS SERIOUS ACCIDENT

A serious accident was narrowly averted on Stratford street today by a flagman employed by the American Tube & Stamping Co. when a trolley car became stalled upon a railroad cross-over as it tried to draw oil-tank cars. The trolley car, which was being pushed directly upon it by an electric motor.

The trolley car which was bound for Seaview avenue, came to a stop that the switch at Seaview avenue might be turned when the motorman perceived his danger. Attempting to reverse the power the trolley became stalled directly on the cross-over.

The engineer, who had failed to see the trolley car because of a curve at that point. The presence of mind of a flagman running far out from the end of the train and signaling the engineer in all that saved the trolley in which but four or five passengers were seated at the time.

SILVER WORKERS OF WALLINGFORD JOIN BIG STRIKE

Six Hundred Employees of International Company Quit Their Jobs.

Wallingford, Oct. 16.—Acting in sympathy with the silver workers in the Meriden factories of the International Silver Co., who have been on a strike to secure the shorter work day with increased wages about 500 persons employed in the three factories of the company here walked out at 9 o'clock today. The factories affected are L. J. Miller, which is the Simpson Nickel Plate Co.; and P. J. Miller, which is the Watrous Mfg. Co., the International Co. plants being designated in its own organization by letters.

The strikers went to the Bijou theater, where a meeting with closed doors was held. Many of the strikers said that action taken was by agreement with the leaders in the Meriden strike and is a part of the general movement to secure the shorter day in all the plants of the company. It is understood that only a few of the strikers here are members of a labor union, but organizers of the Federation of Labor were expected to come here to recruit for a local branch of the Meriden union.

No statement was issued from the offices of the plants affected by the strike. It was said unofficially, however, that at none of the factories was business above normal at the present time.

The mass meeting was of short length as most of those present were anxious to get to Meriden to take part in the parade of strikers there this afternoon. The next meeting will be held Monday morning. The strikers have been cautioned to be circumspect in their deportment.

It was stated at the factories that they will open Monday as usual to those who desire to return to work.

CONCILIATORS SETTLE STRIKE IN TORRINGTON

Torrington, Oct. 16.—Differences between the Hendey Machine Company and their employees have been settled and the men will return to their work Monday morning. The settlement was brought about through the conciliators from the department of labor, Clifford Reeves, of Torrington, N. J., and James A. Smith, of Rocky Hill.

The basis of settlement is a 54 hour week, 15 per cent increase in the hourly wage rate and time and a half for overtime. The strike began two weeks ago and the factory, which manufactures machinery, has been practically idle for that entire period. The company has contracts for a large number of military machines for European contracts. Between 300 and 500 men were engaged in the strike.

NEW BRITAIN STRIKERS WILL RETURN MONDAY

New Britain, Oct. 16.—It was announced today that the automatic machine workers of the Corbin Screw Corporation who had been out on strike for several weeks voted at a meeting yesterday to return to work Monday.

Mayor George Quigley acted as arbitrator between the manufacturers and the strikers. The officials of the Corbin company say they will treat with the strikers as individuals and that the men will not be recognized as a body.

Chief of the Fire Department Allen E. Judson and Constable Fred Palmer heard the crash and the screams and rushed to the aid of the passengers. Dr. Rudolph Howard was summoned on the telephone. The fire chief and his assistant did valiant work in helping the injured out of the mess and he assisted them to the office of the physician, where all were treated. Later they were taken to their homes.

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VILLA REPORTED KILLED BY BAND HE COMMANDED

Own Men Seized and Executed Constitutional Chief, El Paso Hears.

El Paso, Oct. 16.—Reports current here for 12 hours that General Francisco Villa, chief of the constitution in Mexico, had been arrested by his own men at Casas Grandes, convicted and put to death, could not be confirmed here early today.

Messages from General Villa in his private code were received at Juarez, at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The messages related to business with his representatives in Juarez.

The report that General Rodolfo Ferro was dead, received last night came over the military wires from Casas Grandes. It stated briefly that Ferro had been drowned while fording a river.

A Mexican passenger from Casas Grandes, arriving Thursday night, was said to have brought the first word of Villa's death, but his story became public only late yesterday when it received apparent confirmation from an American arrival who said he had been so informed by a railroad employee.

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ANNUAL REVIEW OF CITY DEPTS. DRAWS THROG

Policemen and Firemen in Yearly Turn-Out Are Warmly Greeted.

PARADE WITNESSED BY CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor Wilson and Others Hold Official Review at City Hall Stand.

With Supt. Birmingham leading as grand marshal the members of the police and fire departments passed in review before Mayor Wilson and other members of the city government in the second annual police and fire department parade today. A feature of the procession was the appearance in line of the old volunteer company, "The Pacific" drill march.

Next year, Warner Bros., the Graphophone and the Old Seamsstress Engine companies as well as many private fire companies maintained at the various factories will march.

At 2 o'clock this afternoon members of both the police and fire departments were inspected by the commissioners who have charge of these departments.

The inspection of the police department led by Supt. Birmingham and headed by the Wheeler & Wilson band, the policemen started from police headquarters down Fairfield avenue.

Main street where the firemen were in waiting. From this point the line of march was down Main street, to State street, past city hall, where the procession was reviewed by Mayor Wilson and the city officials.

The grandstand erected on the green, out State street to Fairfield avenue, to Washington avenue to Bull's Head, to Main street, to Fairfield avenue, where the parade was dismissed.

Members of the police department wore dress coats, cap and dress belts, buttons and white gloves. Members of the fire department wore dress uniforms and white gloves. The members of the various companies marched in front of their apparatus, the captains in front and the lieutenants two places to the right. The police marched in platoons, the firemen company front.

The firemen were formed in two divisions. Assistant Chief Boardman commanded the first division and Assistant Chief Horkheimer the second division. No fires were lighted in the engines but the engineers carried lanterns and lights in case of need. All members on march were ordered to leave of absence were ordered to report to their companies for regular duty for the day. They will be allowed an additional day off later. All members on duty ten days leave of absence who were in the city were ordered to report for the parade.

The annual inspection of the police department took place at 1:45 this afternoon at the rear of the police station.

(Continued on Page 2)

BACK FROM RUSSIA, WAR NURSE RELATES REMARKABLE STORY OF CONDITIONS IN CZAR'S DOMAIN

Miss Sarah A. Lee, niece of Alfred G. Southey, proprietor of the Westport hotel, formerly a resident of Bridgeport at 276 French street and a graduate of the Bridgeport hospital school for nurses has returned from her experience as a nurse near Petrograd, nursing the wounded.

The observations of Miss Lee upon the Russian situation in the Great War are not only startling but deeply interesting to all Americans from the fact that they come from a woman whose prestige in the Red Cross society is assured by reason of her great intelligence and the responsible positions she held in this country even though going to the Russian front in the capacity of trained nurse.

Imbued with the idea of nursing from her experience as a nurse near Petrograd, nursing the wounded.

Miss Lee, who voluntarily enlisted as an ordinary nurse in the American Red Cross units going abroad left New York city March 20, on the steamer Bergensford. She was ordered returned to America because of lack of funds and arrived in New York, October 9, having taken the same steamer.

She was stationed at the military hospital quartered in the Polytechnic college, at Kiev, beyond Petrograd. Here an evacuation hospital to care for patients in transit from the field hospitals to those in the interior had been established. All the wounded from Warsaw and the Galician front, numbering nearly 10,000 daily were treated according to their needs and again sent away.

"It was awful," said Miss Lee in speaking of the wounds of the soldiers. "Friends and foe alike were transported from the front. Their wounds, due to the shrapnel used by the Russians are beyond description. As they had received only first aid field treatment and had spent three days to a week upon crowded cars without redressings their condition upon their arrival in the operating wards was pitiful."

"Yet they have stamina that is beyond comprehension by an American. The Russian, though small, is inured to great hardship and they are totally devoid of nerves. By this I mean that physically their nervous system has not been developed as in the American physique. Neurosthenia is practically unknown and their bodies are consequently devoid of a sense of pain. While emotional they have none of the finer feelings and can watch the death of a comrade without the slightest perceptible feeling or sympathy."

"The greater percentage of those wounded by rifle bullets either expire or recover quickly. On the other hand the great majority of patients are wounded by shrapnel and are slowly dying."

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ENVOYS OF ALLIES IN GREECE GO

Russian and Italian Ministers and Their Families Prepare to Leave Athens at Once, is Amsterdam Report.

Norwegian Steamer is Taken As Captive By German Warship—Russia Now At War With Bulgars, Petrograd Declares.

Amsterdam, Oct. 16.—According to a despatch from Athens to the Cologne Gazette, the ministers of Russia and Italy are preparing to leave Greece. The families of the diplomats, the message adds, probably will leave the Grecian capital today on a warship bound for Italy.

NORWEGIAN SHIP TAKEN.

Stockholm, Oct. 16.—The Norwegian steamship Tyr, loaded with cotton and bound from Bergen, Norway, for Copenhagen, Denmark, was captured today by a German warship in the Cattegat, the arm of the North Sea between Sweden and Scotland.

RUSSIA AT WAR WITH BULGARS.

Petrograd, Oct. 16.—Russia regards herself as having been in a state of war with Bulgaria from the moment the latter country attacked Serbia, according to a statement issued today by the foreign office here. The formal declaration of war is awaited at the conclusion of an exchange of telegrams between Russia and her allies.

Reciprocal Declarations Of Hostilities Ready

London, Oct. 16.—Reciprocal war declarations between Bulgaria and Great Britain and Serbia, together with King Ferdinand's manifesto to the Bulgarian people denouncing Bulgaria's cause and intentions have marked another phase in the Balkan situation, which is slowly emerging from obscurity.

Official action not to join forces with Serbia "at present," although causing profound disappointment in England and being regarded by many London commentators as equivocal and as violating the obligations to the allied powers, has been announced in words permitting of no further doubt as to the immediate position of affairs which, however, circumstances might alter at any moment.

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COMMISSIONERS WILL INSIST ON GUARDIAN RIGHTS

Proposition to Place County Wards Under Others' Care Rouses Opposition.

BOSTON INSTITUTION WANTS BRANCH HERE

Fairfield Fresh Air Home Used By Board of Charities Considered.

With a view to establishing in Bridgeport or its immediate vicinity, a branch of the New England Home for Little Wanderers, representatives of Dr. Frederic Harrison Knight have visited Bridgeport recently and have interested Bridgeport city officials in the proposition.

Dr. Knight is superintendent and general manager of a corporation which maintains a home in Boston and four branches throughout New England. The branches are in Pittsfield, Greenfield, Mass., Manchester, N. H., and Portland, Me. So far although there have been plans for several years to establish in Connecticut a branch of the institution, none has been placed in this state.

One of the plans which promoters of the project have in mind is the acquiring of the Fairfield Fresh Air Home, now being used by the corporation for children under four years of age. The home until recently was maintained by private charities, derived chiefly from sources in Fairfield. This year, owing to the unsanitary conditions at Lakeview Home, the Board of Charities availed itself of the Fairfield people's offer of the home as a place for the children.

Dr. Knight is well known in Boston and its environs for his work among orphan children. For many years, up to seven years ago, the home in Boston was a congregate institution with a capacity of about 200 children.

Dr. Knight took charge of the home seven years ago. Since that time private charities organizations have been interested in the movement, and the Congregational churches through New England have contributed generously to its success.

Opposition to the tentative plans of the promoters of the home department branch is said to have been manifested among the county and city officials, this being based chiefly upon the methods of the home in locating the children.

Several years ago, there was considerable criticism of the home for its shipment of children in carload lots, out into western country. It was pointed out that all home ties were broken, and the possibility of organized child labor was being lost through the placing of children in sections far remote from the homes that once sheltered them.

The opposition to this method of disposing of the homeless children was so strong about seven years ago, that there were radical changes in the methods of the institution. These changes were due principally to the interest taken in the home by the organized charities of Boston, and especially of the Boston Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

Neglected or dependent children of Bridgeport, under the workings of the law, are regarded as wards of the county commissioners. Cases needing attention are brought to the notice of the probate court through the humane society, the board of selectmen, or the board of charities.

One of the conditions upon which the advocates of the home lay stress, as being in favor of the entrusting of children to the Boston institution, is that they operate over a long period of time that they can place orphans far from homes.

It is pointed out, also, that when the "welfare of the child demands it," full surrender of the child is required.

Spencer R. Gordon, superintendent of the Bridgeport charities department, is actively interested in the Knight project. He will speak in St. John's church, next week, at an afternoon meeting of the vestry, when the matter of the care of children will be discussed.

STEALS LANTERN.

Louis Richie of 46 Catherine street was fined \$2 and costs when arraigned before Judge Wilder in city court today on the charge of the theft of one lantern from the property of the Remington Arms Co. on Boston avenue.

Louis De Benedictis of 35 Hallett street, an accomplice, was fined \$2 and costs.

SIXTY REPORTED KILLED AS TRAIN GOES OVER BANK

SEEKS GASOLINE IN WELL; LIGHTED MATCH FINDS IT

Newtown Youth and Companion Are Badly Burned By Severe Explosion.

(Special to The Farmer.)

Newtown, Oct. 16.—A well in the yard of the Newtown Fire department building on Main street, exploded at 10:30 this morning when Herman Tieman, Jr., an employee of the Frank Blackman garage, dropped a lighted match into it in an effort to ascertain what caused the queer taste to the water.

The force of the explosion that followed instantly hurled the heavy concrete platform of the well curb ten feet into the air and shot Tieman and Edward Bradley of Newtown upwards, both falling to the ground with their faces and hair burned.

Henry Carlson, another employee, had stepped back when he saw the lighted match in the hands of Tieman and thus escaped the rush of flame. He was knocked backwards to the ground by the force of the explosion.

Bradley and Tieman were carried to the home of Mrs. S. F. Schermerhorn where Dr. J. F. Mumford attended them. Examination showed that Tieman was unable to see out of either eye and Bradley was able to see but slightly out of the left eye. No trace of hair or eyebrows could be found on either man's head. Both are suffering excruciatingly from the large scorching area of their faces. Though treatment is now being rendered locally it is expected that their condition will require removal to a hospital.

No explanation of the cause of the accident has been vouchsafed other than that gasoline which undoubtedly caused the explosion may have seeped through the earth from either one of two gasoline supply tanks located at a distance of 75 feet from the well.

Police Board Will Hold Special Session

A special meeting of the police commissioners will be held in Clerk C. L. Smith's office at 3:30 o'clock tomorrow to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Doorman Willis N. Benham.

It will not be at all surprising if a "dark horse" is presented. Commissioner Richard H. Murphy will be unable to be present. He left yesterday for a two weeks' stay at St. Clements, Mich., where he will receive the benefits of the mineral baths for an attack of inflammatory rheumatism.

Civic League Head Helps Settle Strike

(Special to The Farmer.)

Seymour, Oct. 16.—Strikers at the brass goods factory of the Matthews Manufacturing Co. all returned to work today, accepting the offer of the concern of a seven per cent. increase in wages. The strikers had asked for 10 per cent. increase one week. It was refused walked out of the factory.

Most of the strikers are of foreign birth. Eugene M. Schlenk, secretary of the North American Civic League here, has been cordially interested in the strike and through him a settlement was made between the strikers and the company on the basis mentioned. Mr. Schlenk lives at Stone Hill, Bridgeport and his office is in Room 46, Taylor Building.

Lucier Bound Over to Superior Court

In city court today, Judge Frank L. Wilder overruled a demurrer entered by Attorney George Mara in the case of Arthur Lucier, 129 Fairfield avenue, arraigned on the charge of taking an automobile without permission of the owner, and Lucier was bound over to the December term of the superior court under a bond of \$500, which was furnished by his father.

It was originally intended to try the case one week from today, but owing to some misunderstanding the principals appeared in city court today and it was decided to dispose of it immediately.

The case of George L. Mosher, 240 Fairfield avenue, who is recovering at St. Vincent's hospital from concussion of the brain received when the machine crashed into the large billboard at the scene of the accident, was again continued until one week from today. A charge of manslaughter has been placed against Mosher, who was driving the car at the time, and his bonds have been fixed at \$2,000. It is rather surprising from the reports and most likely will be "discharged" from the hospital the early part of next week.

The Italian government has placed an order in this country for 51,000,000 feet of lumber, chiefly yellow pine.

It was announced that the canal of New York State would be closed to navigation November 30, unless closed sooner by ice.